

Appl. No. 10/016,276
Amdt. Dated April 4, 2007
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2007

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the second paragraph at page 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Shield 750 may further comprise a planar contact surface, such as, for example, disc 752 attached to linear bearing 638', which may be permanently attached or releasably attached. Linear bearing 638' may also be monolithically formed with disc 752. As shown in FIG. 20, linear bearing 638' defines a throughbore (no number) having an internal diameter that is substantially equal to the external diameter of needle 746. Disc 752 may further include foldable portions (not shown), such as by living hinges, for packaging purposes. Texturing may also be added to the top surface of disc 752 to enhance gripping of disc 752. Disc 752 may also be hingedly attached to distal segment 614' through hinge 782, thereby leaving linear bearing 638' free from communication with the disc 752. Linear bearing 638' remains connected to distal segment 14' through living hinge 78.--